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is answered. The older members are far more intelligent and experienced than we younger ones. They are looking ahead, and can clearly see the time approaching when they will "lay their burdens down." They can also see that some one must take up their work and perpetuate it. Who will do it? Do you know? Ask your older brethren. They will tell you that you and I are expected to pick up the work where they let it fall. Nay, never let them drop it, but stand ready to take it as they loosen their hold upon it. What! Are we expected to suddenly rise up from absolute obscurity and in all our inexperience begin our services without even a counsellor? Do their actions indicate such? Not if I may judge. Why, don't you know that when the young folks are conducting their services, the old are on hand enjoying them as much or more than the young? They know that our present work and drift is far from lost.

Then, not only that, but we are wanted for the present. Why, even now when the young folks stay at home, the old come in and cast a dejected look around the room, and in tones of unconcealed dissatisfaction remark, "I wonder what's wrong that we have no crowd?" After services the complaint becomes more general. The crowd was small, the singing poor, the room was not well ventilated, the preacher was tiresome in his discourse or something was wrong. All because the young folks stayed at home. Now isn't that a fact? I think it is.

Does that look as if we were not wanted? Decide for yourself. No, we are wanted by the old members, and if the time ever comes when we are not wanted, they will let us know. But don't be alarmed, they want us for they can't do without us.

Not only do they want us but they want our souls and they want the souls of all future generations for Christ. How will they get them? By perpetuating the young folks societies and giving them a permanent place in the church. This, they have done, and now it remains for us to prove that we do not intend to betray their trust. The way to do this is to go to work, "Prove all things," "Hold fast to that which is good." Progress!

Milledgeville, Ill.

THE KING'S CHILDREN

BY LAURA HAWKINS.

Paper read before the Illiokota Conference, October, 1893.

Who are they, do you ask? The National organization of young people in the Progressive Brethren church. Yes! We look up and thank God. To organize a young people's society and set them to work, is acknowledged everywhere a grand help to the cause of Christ. The church has machinery that must be worked, and the young folks are anxious to know how to work it. There is no work in the church I enjoy more, or would rather introduce, than that of the King's Children.

At our first meeting (so tremblingly ventured), to the present time—covering a space of about three years—our meetings here have been the embodiment of all that is good, uplifting, and Christ-like. And I realize it to be one of the greatest privileges of my life, to be a member of and a participant in the success of the King's Children Society. The regular study of the lessons does spiritually instruct. The references read and explained by different members, inspires. And the advancement of timid, weak children into earnest workers for Christ, has given courage and enthusiasm unsurpassed by any other society of the church.

An organization of young people, whose leader has administrative talent, and tact in guiding and convincing the young the necessity of obeying and fulfilling their Christian privileges, thereby developing their gifts, and widening the outlook, is the grandest movement of our church today. A lengthy code of laws or set rules for our following is unnecessary, and rather detrimental than otherwise. We believe in progression. Then give us nothing that will hinder or entangle. "The Gospel of Christ, is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." "If the Son shall make you free, then are ye free indeed." There should be some system governing the election of officers. Aside from this (with possible exceptions) set rules are a superfluity. Let every society be a law unto itself, governed by circumstances,—time of meeting, place, etc. The same routine of conducting the services need not be strictly adhered to, time after time. Each leader should endeavor to make the meeting as attractive, inspiring and instructive as possible; being ever on the alert, interspersing the lessons with spirited Gospel songs, calling for a few words from members

upon the subject, and short prayers. (We believe in long prayers and talks only, when made at home.) Remember you are working for and with eager, restless youth; therefore, sermonizing (even when qualified) is entirely out of place. Have every moment so filled with animated, absorbing, practical expression, that all will be benefitted and entertained. The topics should be carefully selected and practical; setting forth the doctrine of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To give variety, introduce temperance lessons and distribute temperance tracts. And occasionally a praise service, where we may learn to sing new songs harmoniously together.

There are several distinct lines of work, more may be added. Each line may have a superintendent. The superintendent of the flower mission has charge of all flower decorations for the society; furnishing a fresh bouquet for the church each Sabbath, sending flowers to sick members, etc.

The superintendent of literature has an important office, in sending for and keeping account of money expended and number of tracts given out. The distribution should be systematic and thorough. Let us all aid in sowing precious seed in tract form, knee deep.

The Junior's. What can we not say for them? Innocent little sunbeams! Our Junior's were organized last March and now number forty five girls and boys under fifteen years of age. They meet each Sunday evening at 6:30 o'clock, and are organized same as Senior's, with president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, organist and librarian. Change officers once a month. The children have full charge of the meeting, with hints from instructor. Open with singing and prayer, after which comes the lesson arranged upon the blackboard and rehearsed in concert by the children. Lessons are Gospel—temperance and purity—with illustrative stories. The iron-clad temperance and purity pledge signing is a sacred part of each evening. Secretary's report, sentimental roll-call, and appointing a letter writer to the EVANGELIST, fills the half hour. Parents are appreciative and sincere in their praise for the Junior's. And it is indeed sublime to hear the sweet young voices answering questions and singing songs praising the Lord.

The monthly literary is a grand success, giving work to every member as it does. Programs consist of reading, papers, short speeches on young people's work, music, both vocal and instrumental; calling into play all the talent of the church—from the Junior's to the middle aged. An occasional lawn-social or parlor concert served with dainty refreshments, bids dull care take wings, and taking all together makes a lively, enjoyable working church of young people.

The time for congratulation over rapid growth, wonderful achievement and glowing prophecy is at hand. A paper that will recount these things for the King's Children will be interesting and awaken enthusiasm. But as time rolls on, the work of the church will become complete. The children of today will be the fathers, mothers, teachers, ministers of tomorrow,—the future pillars of our beloved church. Then does it not dawn upon us, our present needs? King's Children conventions! They should be schools of method's. The peculiar work of each department ought to be analyzed, exemplified, and emphasized. The experience of both those who have succeeded and those who have failed should be fully and candidly given. Experienced workers should drill the inexperienced. If possible, model King's Children meetings should be conducted so as to actually show how the work may be done. The question box may be made a thoroughly instructive and helpful feature. Especially so if the questions are answered by several persons who have had actual experience in the matters they talk about. Such a training school will impart more real help in six hours than the common convention will in six days. Of course songs of praise and seasons of prayer ought to be the soul of every session, as spiritual culture is one of the chief elements sought. Inculcate into the heart of every King's child the necessity of strict adherence to Christian duty, and to do every thing possible to help others, work and watch as if all depends upon himself. Let every member feel a personal responsibility, doing all for the glory of our King.

"Are there ten thousand children,
O'er this land so broad
Willing to work—their shoulder
Wearing the badge of God?"

Are there ten thousand children
Filled with zeal intense,
Ready for Christ to offer
Their labors, their prayers, their pence?

For the gifts and prayers of the children
Gathered in one strong band,
Could conquer the world for Jesus
And make it a Holy Land."

Milledgeville, Ill.

TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH GREETING.

BY J. O. TALLEY.

The future of our King's Children is evidently a great one; and if we may judge by present indications it will be a bright one.

In appearing in your columns for the first time as president of the national society of King's Children, I can only promise you that, with the help of our Divine King, I will endeavor to bring forward and execute such plans as our society and the judgment of our most successful workers may suggest for the advancement of the interests of the society and the development of the talents of its members.

Our field for work is a broad one, and there is much work to do.

First, there should be organized a King's Children society in every church. In this work we should be aggressive, and push the work until our motto at the head of this column shall be realized. A high ideal and a lofty purpose are two very essential factors in a progressive work like ours. The available material at hand consists of our children and young people ranging in ages from five years up. The importunities of the child cannot be refused by the parents; hence the child may lead the parents to Christ.

In all past history of the world there, perhaps, has never been a time when so grand and noble a work could be done for humanity by young people as comes to our hands today. The time has never been when our young people could wield so potent and effective an influence in the church as the present. Our church conventions have endorsed our work whenever it has been brought before them; and our older brethren and sisters have been most earnest in their commendation of our zeal.

Second, our mission is one that cannot fail to bring good returns and substantial enjoyment. The gathering in of the children and young people of non church going people, and making our meetings of all kinds both entertaining and instructive to them. And let me assure you that what will interest and develop the children of such people will prove a power in drawing the parents to the kingdom. Then there are the sick children. Can we think of a work more commendable than to visit such and to carry them some little token of our love?

Third, we find a place awaiting us in our church and in our church's literature. There is, perhaps, no scene more inspiring and soul-cheering than that of the children and young people's devotional meeting. Nothing so cheers the hearts of our old brethren and sisters, as the sight of the young taking up the work of the church which they have so dearly loved; and whose labors and burdens will so soon have to be shifted to other shoulders. There are no letters so interesting to the old folk as those from the children.

There is a place in our church literature for us that can be successfully occupied by no other agency. Let us to the front, and occupy that place with a vim that shall make us and our work a necessary adjunct to a successful church, and a compliment to the hopes of our elder brethren and sisters.

Plan. We shall bring out a nice topic card for the coming year which will assign a topic for each Sunday service with a few Scriptural references, to assist in the development of the subject. I think it almost necessary to the successful existence of a young people's society that devotional service should be held each Sunday evening, say one hour before preaching service. These topic cards will suggest a variety of services. Temperance, missionary, song and praise service, etc., and should be used by all societies.

We are now on the highway to success; let us turn neither to the right nor left, but press on. A department in our church paper is now assigned us under our own name and motto; which invites us to use our pens, and I assure you there will be many hundreds of grandpa's put on their spectacles to see what the children and young people are writing about. And then when they read our department through they will see what our editor and Rev. so and so has written.

How many responses shall we have for next week's EVANGELIST.

Milledgeville, Ill.